

**FROM THE I. B. S.**

Number 4  
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When the General Electric contract was originally negotiated, provision was made by IBSR for a "news-service charge" on each program broadcast by a college station, to cover the cost of gathering the news used. The flat rate per program bore no relation to the station's coverage or news sources, and was set at \$1.50. This charge was never itemized separately but was included in the net check sent your station to cover the GE time charges.

The gross GE contract was divided as follows: Station-50%, IBSR-15%, IBS-35%. The "news-service charge" was divided the same way. On its part, IBS supplied a mimeographed news service for college stations carrying the GE contract, up until February 9th, when the Service was permanently discontinued. The IBS percentage of the charge, however, was continued indefinitely.

This was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee in late September or October, when a log-jam of GE billing dating back to April was being cleared by IBSR. Following an investigation and brief discussion, the Committee has voted unanimously to take no further percentage of the "news-service charge," and to return what has already been taken since February 9th.

The enclosed check is the first installment on this retro-active return, which in the case of your station amounts to \$ 31.35.

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This may be visionary, but perhaps some stations have enough money to be able to install a national press-ticker service. If not, you might still want these names, for future reference:

Mr. Philip Newsome  
Radio Department  
United Press  
220 East 42nd Street  
New York, 17, N.Y.

Mr. L. H. Matthews  
Press Association (AP)  
50 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, N.Y.

Mr. Robert Brown  
International News Service  
235 East 45th Street  
New York, 17, N.Y.

All of these organizations quote a general estimate of about \$30 a week for their service, depending on the location of the station. PA and UP can provide edited radio copy, ready for broadcast, while INS provides their regular straight news wire.

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**CONFIDENTIAL-FOR STATION EXECUTIVES**



One more reminder about the very important IBS Board of Governors Meeting, to be held at the Hotel Commodore in New York, Room 159, on November 24th and 25th (the Thanksgiving weekend). 10:30 AM The meeting will be devoted not only to a discussion of the proposed new Constitution and codes, but will also cover highly important IBS and IBSR financial matters. IBS is in a somewhat precarious financial situation, due to the fact that the present General Electric and Herald Tribune contracts were negotiated to expire the same day, December 31st. There is no indication as yet on their renewal, and therefore we cannot rightfully project prospective income from them, beyond that date.

Thus the financial statement for the next six months properly looks like this:

<u>Bank balance</u>	<u>Estimated Income to April 1st</u>	<u>Estimated Expenditures to April 1st</u>
\$651.62	\$5,200.00	\$6,500.00

This disquieting picture will also apply to every college station's finances during the coming year, unless present contracts can be successfully re-negotiated by IBSR, and new contracts added. Unless this is done immediately, your station income in 1946 will shrink to about 15% of its present level, starting January 1st. At the moment, despite the large increase in post-war advertising, no new sponsors have been found for the college stations.

Thus we are all up against the same problem together, which is the reason why we are so anxious to see every IBS member fully represented at the Thanksgiving meeting. All of us can then discuss plans for meeting this ominous situation.

IBSR, at that time, will give a report on what it has been doing.

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I am just informed by IBSR of the unfortunate fact that RCA Victor has taken up its cancellation clause, and will not project the present contract past the 31st of December. Some of the reasons behind RCA's decision are obvious, others are not immediately apparent. We can probably discuss all of the reasons to good effect at the Board meeting.

We do have the good news that RCA is working on a plan to allow the college stations to keep their RCA record library. We don't know yet whether this will involve further payment, or not. By the Meeting, we should have some of the details. Needless to say, we are all giving this idea (the personal sudden brain-child of Mr. Richard Mohr, the RCA man who handled the contract) every possible support.

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A note from IBS Technical Advisor Bill Tuller, that might bear reproducing here:

"Please don't anyone get sucked in on the surplus UHF coaxial cable that is now for sale. Some of it is O.K., but the other, identifiable by its jet-black hard, or white marshmallow-consistency, insulation, is pretty awful. The good stuff has polyethylene insulation, which is about the hardness of candle-wax, yellowish-gray in color, and is translucent to almost transparent."

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William Reagh Hutchins, founder of CURC, the Columbia University station, wrote an article on its present equipment in the August issue of Electronics. He wrote with a particular feeling of pride, for most of the equipment described and pictured was designed by him. (Bill is now working with Major Armstrong, at Columbia.) We had some reprints of the article made, and thought you might be interested in seeing it. It's enclosed.

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The other two enclosures are the first blood in David Linton's new Program and Production Handbook. I'll let him tell you about it:

"The article on recorded sound effects, by Linc, and on football broadcasting by Tom Wertenbaker, formerly of WPRU, are the first of a series of articles on various problems of programming and production which will eventually make up the complete IBS Program and Production Handbook. After the members of your staff have read these sections, please preserve them in a sturdy notebook binder. Other articles will be brought out from time to time. Please preserve them and bind them together for reference by future members of your station's staff.

In this way, IBS hopes to help stations in the ever-present problem of how to train new students in radio techniques. These articles on problems peculiar to college radio will supplement the excellent material on general radio now in print.

We will welcome any suggestions for topics to be covered in later articles, and will attempt to assign their writing to the proper collegiate "authority." We also earnestly solicit your articles."

David Linton  
Program Manager

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We'll tell you more about everything at the Board of Governors Meeting. All of the IBS Executive Committee will be present.

Sincerely,

Lincoln Diamant  
Business Manager